

It's no secret to all who are associated with Orange Grove Junior High that Mr. Fries consistently has been one of the school's most popular teachers—popular with both students and parents. He is well-liked simply because he truly cares about his students. And he's considered a wonderful teacher of history because he truly cares about his country.

Mr. Fries is one of those remarkable teachers who has made a lasting impact on the lives of young people. In fact, one of his students who traveled with Mr. Fries on his first tour to Washington back in 1979 is now a Legislative Director for my friend and colleague from Ohio, Senator Mike DEWINE. This former student has said that his own interest in government, and his own love of history, was due largely to Rick Fries. I am sure there are quite a few more current and former students who were inspired by Mr. Fries, and not just in history and government. Mr. Fries also dedicates his time with young people as a football and basketball coach, and follows the example of the legendary UCLA Coach John Wooden, who developed in his athletes not just physical strength, but also strength of character.

It is fitting that the Orange Grove students will be visiting Capitol Hill on April 13—the birthday of the author of the Declaration of Independence and our third president, Thomas Jefferson. I understand Mr. Fries is a great admirer of President Jefferson, and it shows when he and his students visit Monticello—President Jefferson's home—and the Jefferson Memorial. I also understand that of all the tributes given to President Jefferson, Mr. Fries is particularly fond of the one given by President John F. Kennedy, when the following at a White House dinner honoring Nobel Prize winners: I think this is the most extraordinary collection of talent, of human knowledge, that has ever been gathered together at the White House, with the possible exception of when Thomas Jefferson dined alone."

Mr. President, I am sure I speak for the community of Hacienda Heights when I express my admiration and thanks to Rick Fries. He is truly an inspiration to his students and his fellow teachers for his tireless devotion to young people and to his profession. I wish Mr. Fries, and the students, parents and faculty from Orange Grove an enjoyable and memorable twentieth visit to our nation's capitol.●

TRIBUTE TO HOWARD COFFIN

● Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, Vermont has a long-standing reputation of having the most valiant regiments to be dispatched to the Union Army during the Civil War. Vermonters not only fought bravely for the preservation of the Union and for an end to slavery, they made vital contributions to many important battles. The Union Army was at a great advan-

tage when they were lucky enough to have Vermonters fighting by their side. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Howard Coffin, a Vermonter who has lead the fight for the preservation of this country's hallowed grounds. I am pleased and honored that Howard Coffin will receive the Vermont Civil War Council's "Full Duty" award for his dedication and accomplishments in preserving and understanding of our nation's most cherished and sacred lands.

Preserving our nation's battlefields is very important to me and a subject very close to Howard's heart. Several years ago I had the privilege to travel with Howard, who is well known as the most prominent Civil War tour guide in Vermont, from battlefield to battlefield. We relived Jackson's battles of the 1862 campaign and retraced the Union campaign of 1864. From that day on I have shared Howard's passion and interest in this country's sacred past. Fortunately for me and this country, Howard took the lead as a member of my staff to find out all we could about the battlefields and what was needed to safeguard this nation's Civil War heritage. It quickly became apparent that the Civil War battlefields were in need of protection. Howard was instrumental in drafting and helping pass important legislation which led to eventual passage of the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Commission and the Civil War Sites Advisory Commission.

A leader in the effort to preserve Civil War battlefields, Howard has served on the boards of the Association for the Preservation of Civil War Sites and Protect Historic America and served as member of the Civil War Sites Advisory Commission. He has published several books on the Civil War, including "Full Duty" and his most recent, "Nine Months to Gettysburg," which tells the story of the Second Vermont Brigade. He also organized the first ever fundraiser for battlefield preservation in Vermont generating over \$10,000 for the protection of the battlefield of the 3rd Winchester where Vermonters fought and died so valiantly.

Mr. President, the American Civil War is thought by many historians to be the fundamental event shaping the character of the United States. However, battlefield sites that are vital to understanding and appreciating our nation's history are in grave danger. This country is lucky to have Howard Coffin on its side, because he will not rest until every field, hill, dam, valley, and woods in this country that has been saturated with the blood of soldiers who fought so bravely are protected and recognized. I am grateful for the foresight and dedication of Howard Coffin and congratulate him on his acceptance of the "Full Duty" award.●

BELLA S. ABZUG

● Mr. MOYNIHAN. Mr. President, I was greatly saddened to learn of the death

of Bella S. Abzug. While we began our association as political rivals, past quickly became past, and I came to respect and admire her as a friend and colleague.

She served three terms in the United States Congress with extraordinary distinction, establishing an unparalleled record of commitment to women's issues that would distinguish her career. With a rare combination of intellect, energy, and wit, Bella properly won a place on the national stage. And she did not stop there—in short order Bella Abzug became an international figure. As President of the Women's Environment and Development Organization, she added her voice to a wide range of international debates with a style that was all her own. Bella's stature was such that in 1995 she was selected to lead a delegation of United States nongovernmental organizations to the United Nations' Fourth World Conference on Women held in Beijing, China. She made us proud.

To know Bella Abzug was to know a woman of indefatigable passion for the fray. Regardless of the issue, whenever New Yorkers needed an outspoken advocate, Bella could be counted on to lead the charge. She will be missed.

I ask that her obituary from the New York Times of April 1, 1998 be printed in the RECORD.

The obituary follows:

[From the New York Times, Wed., Apr. 1, 1998]

BELLA ABZUG, 77, CONGRESSWOMAN AND A
FOUNDING FEMINIST, IS DEAD

(By Laura Mansnerus)

Bella S. Abzug, New Yorker, feminist, antiwar activist, politician and lawyer, died yesterday at Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center in Manhattan. She was 77.

She died of complications following heart surgery, said Harold Holzer, who was her spokesman when she served in Congress. She had been hospitalized for weeks, and had been in poor health for several years, he said.

Ms. Abzug represented the West Side of Manhattan for three Congressional terms in the 1970's. She brought with her a belligerent, exuberant politics that made her a national character. Often called just Bella, she was recognizable everywhere by her big hats and a voice that Norman Mailer said "could boil the fat off a taxicab driver's neck."

She opposed the Vietnam War, championed what was then called women's liberation and was one of the first to call for the impeachment of President Richard M. Nixon. Long after it ceased to be fashionable, she called her politics radical. During her last campaign, for Congress in 1986, she told The New York Times, "I am not a centrist."

Bella Abzug was a founding feminist, and an enduring one. In the movement's giddy, sloganeering early days, Ms. Abzug was, like Betty Friedan and Gloria Steinem, an icon, the hat bobbing before the cameras at marches and rallies.

After leaving the House in January 1977, she worked for women's rights for two more decades. She founded an international women's group that worked on environmental issues. And she was a leader of a conference of nongovernment organizations that paralleled the United Nations' fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing in 1995.

Even then, she continued to rankle. Former President George Bush, on a private visit to China that coincided with the Beijing conference, said to a meeting of food